THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Department of Rural Development has undertaken a monthly Concurrent Evaluation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) since October 1985. The findings of the second round of Concurrent Evaluation study of January-December, 1987 have brought out the positive aspects and deficiencies in the implementation of the programme in the country. The Statewise position of deficiencies, including that for Assam, is given in the Annexure. *[See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 104]

The findings of the concurrent evaluation have been brought to the notice of the State/UT Governments for taking remedial measures to remove deficiencies.

Decline in Shrimp catch

1870. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI:
SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a decline in Shrimps catch during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to protect the depletion of such Shrimp resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) Shrimp landings from 1981 to 1987 are indicated below:

Year	Shrimp Production (in lakh tonnes)
1981..	1.64
1982..	2.10
1983..	1.93
1984..	2.03
1985..	2.32
1986..	2.15
1987..	1.93

While the data indicate that the shrimp fishery is subject to fluctuations in abundance, it does not reveal a declining trend. However, the Government have constituted Expert Groups to look into the problem from time to time. The report of the latest Technical Committee received in March, 1988 recommends a number of measures such as, restriction on introduction of outrigger trawlers, mesh regulation of trawler net, etc. to reduce pressure of fishing on shrimp resources. The report has been sent to State/Union Territory Governments for comments/ necessary action.

Government have banned import of multipurpose trawlers from May, 1987. The chartered foreign fishing vessels are banned from operating within 24 nautical miles on the West Coast and 12 Nautical miles on the East Coast as a general rule besides certain other areas such as Upper East Coast. The deep sea fishing vessels which are acquired as per permission/ letter of intent issued from 1988 are also banned from fishing in areas covered by the coast line and the line joining the following points in the Upper East Coast.

(1) 1922'N—85°30'E

(2) 20N—86°56'E

(3) 20°42'N—88(''E

(4) 218'N—89°7'E

(5) 21°16'N—89''14'N